

EN²A Angelo and William D. Mosley for "Process for Production of Ultrathin Protective Overcoats", now U.S. Patent No. 6,479,111 granted November 12, 2002.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-4, 8, 10, 12, 13, 18 and 19 as follows:

1. (Amended) A process of forming a coating on a substrate, the process comprising steps of:

- A²
- a) forming a coating on the substrate comprising a plurality of layers of fullerene molecules; and
 - b) removing layers of the fullerene molecules, while maintaining a temperature of the substrate at no more than about 200 degrees C, leaving an approximate monolayer coating of fullerene molecules on the substrate.

2. (Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the temperature of the substrate is maintained no more than about 150°C during the removal of layers of fullerene molecules from the coating.

3. (Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the temperature of the substrate is maintained no more than about 100°C during the removal of layers of fullerene molecules from the coating.

4. (Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein step (b) includes:

- 6¹ K²
- b1) adjusting a beam generator to produce a beam arranged to break the fullerene-to-fullerene intermolecular bond of the coating and inadequate to break the fullerene-to-substrate association/bond of the coating, and
 - b2) directing the beam at the coating to break the fullerene-to-fullerene intermolecular bond.

A³
8. (Amended) The process of claim 7, wherein the laser beam generator produced a laser frequency below the ultraviolet frequency range.

A⁴
10. (Amended) The process of claim 4, wherein step (b2) includes:
directing the beam at an acute angle to the substrate.

12. (Amended) The process of claim 4, wherein step (b2) further includes steps of:

- A⁵
i) focusing the beam so that the beam impinges less than all of the coating, and
ii) moving the beam generator relative to the substrate so that the beam successively impinges substantially the entire coating.

13. (Amended) The process of claim 4, wherein step (b2) includes
i) focusing the beam so that the beam impinges less than all of the coating, and
ii) moving the beam generator relative to the substrate so that the beam successively impinges selected portions of the coating.

A⁶
18. (Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein step (b) includes steps of:

- b1) applying a solvent to the coating for a period of time adequate to break the fullerene-to-fullerene intermolecular bond of the coating and inadequate to break the fullerene-to-substrate association/bond of the coating to thereby remove the fullerene molecules from the coating that are not bonded to the substrate, and

AF b2) removing the solvent.

19. (Amended) The process of claim 18, wherein the temperature of the substrate is not greater than 150°C during application of the solvent.